

Christy Welk

WLC

MLO4

The fourth Spanish Major Learning Outcome, MLO, is a secondary cultural knowledge. Due to our department promoting diversity, Spanish majors are required to obtain secondary cultural knowledge outside of Hispanic or main stream American cultures.

To fulfill this requirement I took Span395IP Islamic Culture in Spain at the University of Granada. I was interested in taking this course, as I really did not know much about Islamic culture. Also, Granada the city I was living in at the time has a lot of Islamic influence on culture and architecture.

In this course we learned about Islamic history, the Muslim migration to Spain, Islamic culture and spiritual beliefs and practices. This was a lecture style course taught in Spanish. I really enjoyed taking this course and I especially enjoyed learning about the culture through music, calligraphy, and traditions. This included the pilgrimage to Mecca and the religious customs. I felt I not only learned about Islam but also gained an understanding of Granada, its intergroup relations and cultural influence. I wish there was more room in the curriculum for these types of courses.